

## Prevention is the most cost effective control method

With the understanding that most weeds are spread through similar pathways, such as the movement of goods, animals and machinery, it is clear that early detection, prevention and intervention is the most cost effective method for managing weeds.

## Who is the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party?

The VSTWP is an incorporated non-profit organisation, established in 1995 following concern from the community about the rapid spread of serrated tussock across the landscape to Melbourne's west.

## How does Serrated Tussock spread? How do I protect my property?

### What is serrated tussock?

**Serrated tussock** (*Nassella trichotoma*) is a noxious weed that produces large amounts of seed, and is known to invade both agricultural land and native vegetation.

Serrated tussock seed is easily spread and scattered plants may often go unnoticed until a sizeable infestation has established.

### How do I prevent serrated tussock from establishing on my property?

A simpler option for landowners is to prevent serrated tussock from becoming a problem from the beginning.

This can be achieved by recognising some common ways serrated tussock, and other weeds, readily find their way onto a property and by adopting a few simple preventative measures.

Image Source: DPI Vic



## Watch out for serrated tussock!

For more information go to [www.serratedtussock.com](http://www.serratedtussock.com) or call 136 186

© Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party, April 2016.

Disclaimer: This publication may be of assistance to you but the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party do not guarantee that this publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

## Common ways serrated tussock is spread



Image Source: DPI Vic

**Seed can enter your property through a variety of ways.**



Image Source: DPI Vic

Serrated tussock seeds are small and often go unnoticed.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Seed branches of serrated tussock are easily dislodged by the wind and can be blown up to 20 kilometres away, spreading seed across the landscape.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Operating vehicles in areas with serrated tussock can lead to seeds becoming caught on tyres, mudguards, radiators, and slashers.



Image Source: Ivan Carter

Seeds can stick to clothing and shoes.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Gravel, sand, soil or mulch brought in for landscaping or track maintenance can contain serrated tussock seeds.



Image Source: VSTWP

Livestock can carry serrated tussock seeds in their wool, droppings and in mud attached to their legs and feet.



Image Source: Dept. Agric. WA

So too can fodder acquired from an unknown source.

## How to reduce the risk



Image Source: DPI Vic

Treat serrated tussock before it seeds to prevent seed spreading to other parts of your property and neighbouring properties.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Plant a vegetation buffer or install a fine netting fence along your property boundary to limit the entry of serrated tussock seeds.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Avoid travelling through areas with serrated tussock. Wash down dirty vehicles and equipment before they leave your property or enter non-infested areas.



Image Source: DPI Vic

Ensure machinery and vehicles entering your property are free from seeds and mud. Have a dedicated washdown spot that can be monitored for the appearance of any unwanted plants.



Image Source: Mallee CMA

Use a containment area to isolate newly introduced livestock. Feed stock in a dedicated location. Only buy feed that is guaranteed to be weed free and avoid product sourced from known serrated tussock areas.



Image Source: VSTWP

Maintain a healthy ground-cover to help minimise the potential of serrated tussock establishing.



Image Source: DPI Vic

**Monitor for the emergence of any unwanted or unknown plants and treat quickly to prevent establishment and seeding.**